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MMMMMM ... CAULIFLOWER?

A.K.A. THE NEW KALE, ACCORDING TO FOOD-TREND WATCHERS, WHO ARE PREDICTING CAULIFLOWER WILL BE VEGGIE OF THE YEAR. IN OTHER NEWS, SALT IS THE NEW PEPPER PAGE 12

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Chip Wilson's mansion on Point Grey Road is worth $54,206,000, according to B.C. Assessment. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

The house that Lululemon built

Assessment. Company founder Chip Wilson's $54M mansion is the priciest in the province

Lululemon founder Chip Wilson's oceanfront fortress is officially the most valuable residence in British Columbia.

The value of Wilson's home on Point Grey Road skyrocketed by $19 million to $54.2 million, according to 2014 B.C. Assessment values released Thursday.

Last year, the Kitsilano home was worth $35.2 million even though it was still under construction.

The 54 per cent jump comes as residential values across Vancouver dropped by a fraction of a per cent. While property values were fairly stable across B.C., they soared by 26 per cent in Kitimat, which is expecting an energy-industry boom.

Considering property taxes are calculated based on these assessments, Wilson, who recently stirred controversy with remarks about the size of women's thighs squeezed into his company's trademark stretchy pants, may need a yoga class to calm down when he sees his next bill.

Vancouver owners paid about $3.80 in property tax for every $1,000 in taxable value in 2013.

Wilson's concrete mansion comes with an indoor gym and an outdoor pool overlooking the North Shore mountains.

A thick line of trees blocks the curious from peering at the house from the front road — soon to be a greenway reserved for local traffic only — but beach-goers got a glimpse of the backyard when Wilson hosted a private Red Hot Chili Peppers concert last August.

The province's second-most expensive home, worth $46 million, is on Point Grey's Belmont Avenue, a Vancouver street near Spanish Bank Beach Park that also boasts the third, fourth, sixth and seventh highest-valued properties in B.C.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Will these new flicks reel you in?

2014 offers a bounty of films, from the now-standard superhero fare to the return of Veronica Mars PAGES 9 & 10

Passengers saved from frozen ship

The vessel had been trapped in the Antarctic since Dec. 24 PAGE 5

Woman's beating death hits a nerve

In the wake of the attack outside a Surrey hockey rink, Newton residents say their crime-ridden area has been forgotten PAGE 3

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NEWS 1

Defunct smoke alarms

Woman dead, seven injured in Surrey house fire

Smoke alarms that could have improved residents' chances of escaping a deadly blaze were disconnected or defunct, an investigation has revealed.

One woman died and seven others were injured in the early morning house fire in the 8800 block of 146A Avenue in Surrey.

The smoke alarm on the second floor had been removed prior to the fire, while three others on the ground floor were either defunct or disconnected, said Surrey fire chief Dan Barnscher.

"Had these smoke alarms been in place and working, the occupants certainly would have had a better chance of escaping," said Barnscher.

Barnscher said the fire originated in the living room, possibly from candles or incense, and burned slowly for a long time before engulfing the top floor in flames.

"Smoke and toxicity would have been extremely high from this type of long-term smouldering fire," he added.

Calls about the blaze flooded into the Surrey Fire Department just before 3:30 a.m.

Residents of the Fleetwood neighbourhood rushed to the aid of their neighbours.

Of the eight people living in the two-storey house, one or two were forced to jump for their lives from the second floor.

No neighbours were injured during their rescue efforts.

ELIZABETH HAMES/METRO

A farmer sorts greens at Local Garden, a vertical urban farm that opened atop a downtown Vancouver parkade in 2013. EMILY JACKSON/METRO FILE

City grows ever more locavoracious in 2013

Local food. Experts say 'sustainable food plan' requirement for large developments was key

EMILY JACKSON
emily.jackson@metronews.ca

Community gardens sprouted, farmers' markets cropped up and the largest urban orchard in North America opened.

Yes, 2013 was a bumper year for the local-food movement in Vancouver: 466 new community garden plots for a total of 4,166, two new farmers' markets for a total of 12 and the introduction of SOLEfood's 400 fruit trees at Main and Terminal.

At this rate, the city will soon meet its goal of 5,000 gardens by 2020.

But local-food experts say one of the most important actions the city took was tweaking its rezoning policy for large developments.

If a project involves land larger than 1.98 acres or contains more than 484,375 square feet of new floor space, the proponent must deliver a "sustainable food plan."

"As far as I know, that's new in Canada," said Janine de la Salle, principal planner of Urban Food Strategies.

Whether developers decide to include community gardens or kitchens, edible landscaping, food markets or composting facilities, they are required to include at least three food assets and show the city how they will come to fruition, de la Salle said.

It's not just about feeding the city — community kitchens or incorporated markets cultivate a sense of space and are important for an aging population, she said.

Peter Ladner, former city councillor and author of The Urban Food Revolution, agreed, adding the growth in local food is "terrific news."

"People want it. Neighbourhoods are clamouring for it. Every community garden has a lineup," he said. "Developers are discovering if you can advertise some sort of food-growing capacity, the development is more interesting."

Mean green machine

"The success and popularity of Vancouver's local-food sector continues to grow and is putting us on track to meet or exceed our greenest-city targets."

Mayor Gregor Robertson, in a statement

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HUDSON'S BAY

Port Mann Bridge. Drivers must now pay full toll rate

The full toll charge for the Port Mann Bridge is now in effect, which may force commuters to look for alternative routes.

For the past year, drivers who registered early with TREO could pay the introductory fees of $1.50, but as of Wednesday, the regular rate is in place. The costs will be $1.50 for motorcycles, $3 for cars, $6 for medium-size vehicles — including cars with trailers — and $9 for large vehicles such as commercial trucks.

An Insights West online poll showed that only 37 per cent of people support raising the toll, down from 51 per cent in December 2012.

The toll may force many to take another route, like the Alex Fraser Bridge or Massey Tunnel, through the newly opened South Fraser Perimeter Road.

"Six dollars for a round trip is a lot of money for any budget," said Jordan Bateman, B.C. director with the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, "It frustrates me that we have to pay the full cost when the whole Highway 1 project isn't finished yet."

SINDHU DHARMARAJAH/FOR METRO

Surrey

Man released without charges in woman's fatal fall

A man taken into custody after a woman fell to her death from a Vancouver-area highrise on New Year's Day has been released.

The 23-year-old was arrested after a 19-year-old woman fell from the 26th floor early Wednesday in what is believed to be Surrey's first homicide of 2014.

But the region's homicide unit says on Twitter that no one is currently in custody and no charges have been laid.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crime-weary locals angry after hockey mom's death

Newton. Residents of the once-quiet community have seen it become plagued by thieves, drug dealers

The beating death of a Surrey hockey mom has hit a nerve with a neighbourhood that has been calling for the city's help to clean up its crime-ridden streets for years.

Last week, 53-year-old Julie Paskall was beaten to death as she picked up her son at the Newton hockey arena. Police believe the motive to be robbery, but as officers canvass the area for clues, residents say one culprit is right in front of them: the neighbourhood itself.

Once a quiet bedroom community, Newton has become plagued by thievery, drug trafficking and homelessness as the neighbourhood expands along with the rest of Surrey.

A makeshift memorial continues to grow outside Newton Arena where 53-year-old Julie Paskall was fatally beaten. ELIZABETH HAMES/METRO

Poor lighting and a lack of security around Newton Town Centre offer many dark corners for criminals to hide, said Doug Elford, head of the Newton Community Association.

Elford ran for city council in 2011 in an attempt to bring the city's attention to Newton's problems and funnel resources to help clean up the streets.

But with all eyes on development of Surrey's new City Centre in Whalley, Newton has been largely forgotten by city officials, Elford said.

Diane MacDermott, owner of Beach Basket Giftware across from the arena, has watched Newton transform from a sleepy community into one more closely resembling Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

For two years, she tried desperately to have police remove an aggressive drug dealer who loitered around her door.

"I was calling the police station sometimes two times a day to try and get the mess cleaned up," she said.

Day after day officers shooed him away, but he always came back. And he's not the only one.

"We see the guys riding on the bikes and they make the handoffs," she said. "We see it all."

It's enough to force her out of the neighbourhood after 26 years.

"I just hate to see it come to this end. For us but also for the poor lady and her family and what's happened to this community," she said.

ELIZABETH HAMES/METRO

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TRANSLINK

Jonathan Tippett, creator of the eatART lab on Great Northern Way, is concerned that the city's lack of warehouse space may force him to mothball the giant racing robot Prosthesis. COURTESY CHRISTOPHER GUY

I, robot, need a home

A case of space. eatART lab's plans to build racing machine Prosthesis rests on ability to find new digs

ELIZABETH HAMES
vancouver@metronews.ca

Nearly a decade after he envisioned building a human-controlled, racing robot, Jonathan Tippett is close to bringing his fantastical machine to life. But a lack of warehouse space in Vancouver may force him to put his dream on hold.

Tippett had intended to build the Prosthesis robot at the 1,350-square-foot eatART lab, a foundation he started to raise awareness about energy through art.

But the foundation recently learned they must vacate their warehouse at Great Northern Way Campus by the end of February to make room for the expanding Emily Carr University.

If they can't find a new lab, said Tippett, "we'll have to basically mothball the operation."

The foundation has been searching for a new home in earnest since November. But, in the City of Glass, it's not easy finding a warehouse large enough for all their creations, which include a giant mechanical spider and 50-foot serpent.

Any future workshop will also have to be spacious enough to build Prosthesis, which means it must be approximately 3,000 sq. ft., it must have a crane, and it must be close to eatART's volunteers in the "East Van creative corridor," said Tippett.

"We basically cannot function unless we meet those criteria," he said.

Great Northern Way Campus has offered to store eatART's equipment. They even offered a space for the eatART lab, but Tippett said it was smaller than their current space, which is already "bursting at the seams."

All this is happening in the midst of Tippett's $100,000 Indiegogo fundraising campaign to help him build the five-metre, four-legged walking machine. And at more than $27,000 and a month left on the clock, it looks like he just might make it.

Tippet said he hopes an upcoming spotlight on Prosthesis on the Discovery Channel will draw even more attention to the cause.

"We're expanding the scope of human experience," he said about the purpose behind project. "We're doing something absolutely unprecedented that has been the dream of generations."

For more information on the Prosthesis project, visit anti-robot.com.

Later this month

Fuel surcharge coming to BC Ferries routes

BC Ferries is adding a 3.5 per cent fuel surcharge to most of its routes starting Jan. 17.

The ferry operator says the surcharge will apply to all routes except for sailings from Port Hardy to Prince Rupert, and Prince Rupert to Haida Gwaii.

In a news release, the company blames high diesel fuel costs, explaining that current prices are 14 cents per litre higher than what the province's ferry commissioner used to determine the cap on fares. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Storm hazard. Be careful, avalanche expert says

An avalanche expert is warning people planning to hit backcountry slopes in eastern British Columbia in the coming days to be extra careful.

Karl Klassen says a major storm tracking across the region could dump up to 50 centimetres of snow on mountains and hills in some areas that are already covered by weak layers.

Klassen says avalanche forecasters are concerned that snowmobilers, skiers and snowboarders might be lulled into a false sense of security after a few years of stable conditions.

"We are asking people to be a bit more cautious this year than they were last year," Klassen, warning services manager for the Canadian Avalanche Centre in Revelstoke, B.C., said Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Safety first

"Take on smaller slopes that aren't as complex, slopes that aren't as steep, especially during this storm over the next few days. The weekend is going to be a real challenging time."

Karl Klassen, warning services manager for the Canadian Avalanche Centre

Chopper swoops in to rescue ice-trapped ship passengers

All 52 passengers trapped for more than a week on an ice-bound Russian research ship in the Antarctic were rescued Thursday when a Chinese helicopter swooped in and plucked them from the ice a dozen at a time.

The dramatic international rescue operation became possible once the weather finally cleared. Blinding snow, strong winds, fog and thick sea ice forced rescuers to turn back time and again.

The twin-rotor helicopter — its red and yellow colours contrasting starkly against the ice and snow — carried scientists and tourists from the Russian ship MV Akademik Shokalskiy to an Australian icebreaker, according to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority's Rescue Coordination Centre, which oversaw the rescue.

At one point, the passengers linked arms and stomped out a landing site in the snow next to the Russian ship for the helicopter, which is based on a Chinese icebreaker.

The eagerly anticipated rescue came after days of failed attempts to reach the vessel, which was trapped since Christmas Eve.

The passengers were flown to an ice floe next to the Aurora Australis icebreaker and then taken by a small boat to the Australian ship, said expedition leader Chris Turney.

The Aurora will take the passengers to Tasmania, a journey expected to take two weeks.

"I think everyone is relieved and excited to be going on to the Australian icebreaker and then home," said Turney.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Passengers from a ship trapped in the Antarctic since Christmas Eve board a Chinese helicopter Thursday. ZHANG JIANSONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/XINHUA

In South Africa

Rwanda's ex-spy chief found dead

The body of Rwanda's former spy chief was found, possibly strangled, in a hotel in South Africa, police said Thursday. Rwandan dissidents accused President Paul Kagame of ordering his assassination.

The suspicious death of Patrick Karegeya, a former Kagame ally who turned against him, follows a pattern of assassinations ordered by the Rwandan president, said Theogene Rudasingwa of the opposition coalition Rwanda National Congress. Kagame's government vehemently denies it targets dissidents.

Karegeya's body was discovered in a room at Johannesburg's plush Michelangelo Towers hotel on New Year's Day, and many questions remain unanswered in a country with a high crime rate.

A murder investigation has been opened in the death of the 53-year-old who reportedly fled to South Africa in 2007.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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U.S. officials issue safety alert about Bakken oil

Flammability. Crude shipped from Bakken oil patch is potentially more volatile than the traditional variety

Following a string of explosive accidents, federal officials said Thursday that crude oil being shipped by rail from the Northern Plains across the U.S. and Canada may be more flammable than traditional forms of oil.

A safety alert issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation warns the public, emergency responders and shippers about the potential high volatility of the crude being shipped from the Bakken oil shale patch in Montana and North Dakota.

The warning comes after the massive explosion caused by an oil train derailment on Monday near Casselton, N.D. No one was hurt, but worries about toxic fumes prompted the evacuation of hundreds of residents.

The oil boom in the Bakken has reduced the nation's reliance on imported oil and brought thousands of jobs to the region. But as companies have increasingly relied on trains to get that oil to lucrative coastal markets, public safety in communities bisected by rail lines has become a major concern.

In July, 47 people were killed in Lac-Mégantic, Que., when a train carrying Bakken crude derailed. Another oil train derailed and exploded in Alabama in November, killing no one but releasing an estimated 749,000 gallons of oil from 26 tanker cars.

The amount of oil moved by rail has spiked since 2009, from just more than 10,000 tanker cars to a projected 400,000 cars in 2013.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ford more years for Toronto's mayor?

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford officially shows his passport to a city clerk Thursday, as he registered as a candidate for the city's 2014 municipal election in October. Toronto's troubled yet defiant mayor isn't allowing months of scandal to stop him from entering what's likely to be the most watched municipal race in the city's history. Rob Ford was first in line at city hall to sign up for the Oct. 27 mayoral election when the nomination period opened Thursday. He expressed confidence that he'll win "Ford More Years" in the top job, despite admitting to using crack cocaine in a "drunken stupor" and making a crude sexual comment on live TV, among other cringe-worthy incidents that have garnered international attention. VICTOR BIRO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Poll

Young parents embrace flu shot

Increasing numbers of adults in their child-rearing years are becoming convinced that getting a flu shot is a good idea. A Harris/Decima poll found that those aged 18 to 34 and those with children in their households were the two demographics that had the highest rates of flu-shot converts than any other.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Synthetic marijuana

Breaking Bad contest winner charged in drug op

Authorities say a Florida man who won a contest to watch the series finale of Breaking Bad with the cast has been charged with running a drug distribution op. Police say Ryan Lee Carroll was selling synthetic marijuana. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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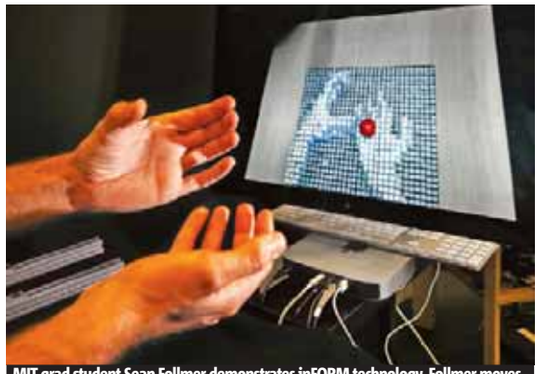
Transporter? Almost

MIT. Researchers have found a new way to render 3D images of people and things in remote locations



MIT grad student Sean Follmer demonstrates inFORM technology. Follmer moves his hands in front of a depth-sensing camera which sends signals to a pin screen in another location that manipulates the red ball. ELISE AMENDOLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have found a way to allow people in one place to interact with three-dimensional versions of people or objects in a different location.

What for?

The researchers behind the technology hope it can eventually be used by urban planners and architects. It could also be used by doctors and others who need to look at CT scans.

MIT's Tangible Media Group calls the technology inFORM. A person in one location moves or puts an object in front of a depth-sensing camera. That camera sends signals to a motorized pin screen somewhere else and that's where the 3D image pops up. If someone on camera is moving his hands, for example, that movement would show up on the pin screen in another location.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Disappearing privacy

Snapchat to issue more secure app

Snapchat CEO Evan Spiegel
JAE C. HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Snapchat says it plans to put out a more secure version of its application following a breach that allowed hackers to collect the usernames and phone numbers of some 4.6 million of its users.

The disappearing-message service popular with young people said in a blog post late Thursday that the updated version of its app would allow users to opt out of its "Find Friends" feature and would stem future attempts to abuse its service.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

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HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU, FUTURE

THE METRO LIST

Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

Looking backward with pride and forward with hope? Probably not, but I have peered deep into my crystal ball, emerging with a clear vision of the coming year.

The good news is, 2014 will likely not be as crazy as its predecessor, but then again, if I am your go-to psychic, then you're screwed already. Here is what you can expect:

1 **___ is the new ___.** Orange is the new black, 45 will be the new 30, cannabis will be the new tobacco, prescription A.D.D. meds will be the new crack, and all will serve as criteria for Toronto's new mayoral candidates.

2 **Why so secretive?** Edward Snowden will gain enough public support to be exonerated for his alleged crimes, but will continue to find his friends a little stand-offish.

3 **Bad girls playing good.** Lindsay Lohan makes a comeback, generating Oscar buzz for her portrayal of a young Mother Teresa.

4 **Baby mama once more.** Kim Kardashian will get pregnant again and give daddy Kanye West a son who shall be named Wild-Wild.

5 **Totally beliebable scenario.** Justin Bieber will pay German officials to retrieve his monkey, which will be trained to walk his new bulldog, pick up its poop and fling it at unattractive or overweight fans.

6 **Bad girls going God.** Miley Cyrus will make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Middle East, where she will consume the unknown fruit of a mysterious tree that will cause her to feel modesty and cover her nakedness with a fig leaf and a fragment of parchment. And army boots.

7 **X-actly what we need.** The X Factor U.S. judge Paulina Rubio will leave the show to judge The X Factor Mexico. She'll be replaced by Nicki Minaj for a win-win situation where Mexico gets a mentor whose insight can finally be understood, and the American version maintains the delicate balance of verbosely incoherent babbling.

8 **Bynum, by then.** Andrew Bynum, one of the NBA's most overpaid per-game players ever, will join the Miami Heat for the league minimum. Bynum's propensity for off-court shenanigans that lead to injury and his subsequent indifference will lead to his attempted strangling by team captain LeBron James during a nationally televised game. Bynum will sue for millions but will still manage to be bankrupt by 2015.

9 **Hollywood K.O.** 2013 brought the Knockout Game into public consciousness. It involves one person sucker-punching an unsuspecting victim while another films it for public consumption on YouTube. In 2014, the brutal pastime will spawn a new reality series where each week, a different Hollywood celebrity will be filmed sucker-punching Perez Hilton.

10 **Sounds about right.** Neither the Maple Leafs nor the Canadiens will earn a playoff berth in 2014. This may not be a revelation, but is more likely to come true than any of the above.

So, dear friends, remember to love like you've never been hurt and dance like no one's watching, but if you actually catch someone watching, put your clothes back on immediately. Happy new year!

ZOOM

Martians-to-be shortlist announced

COURTESY BRYAN VERSTEEG/MARS ONE

75 Canucks make list

Since he was a young boy, eagerly devouring science fiction books, Stephen Fenech has dreamed of being an astronaut.

Now, the Toronto man is a bit closer to reaching his lofty dream after learning that he is one of 75 Canadians selected as a candidate for a one-way mission to Mars.

"I'm vacillating between excitement and terror," said the 45-year-old seasoned traveller, who's visited 160 countries. "When I imagine myself not just in another country but on a whole other planet, I would be so jazzed about being there."

The mission is being organized by Mars One, a Dutch-based not-for-profit. On Monday it announced that of about 202,500 applicants worldwide, 1,058 hopefuls had been selected as potential candidates. They will be whittled down to a group of up to 40 people, who will then train for about seven years.

An unmanned mission is slated for 2018, with Lockheed Martin in charge of building the Mars lander.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Retirement years

"I know I'd be the guinea pig.... And I know I'm taking a chance.... But the way I see it is that my life will be winding down at that point anyway, so I might as well do something that's so fulfilling, not just to me but to our entire race."

Stephen Fenech, who figures that by the time the mission takes place he will be close to retirement, and ready for a new chapter.

$1.5 billion a head

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The goal is for Mars One to send the first crew of four in 2024, with additional groups departing every two years. It's an ambitious — and costly — project. Getting the first group to Mars will cost $6 billion, with every additional manned mission costing $4 billion. To finance the endeavour, the private organization is relying on sponsors and public support. Just last month it launched a crowdfunding campaign. As well, there are ongoing negotiations with media companies for the rights to a reality-TV show that would track the training process.

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Another iOS Kickstarter success story, République arrived on the App Store to much fanfare before Christmas. A hugely ambitious episodic stealth-action adventure, wrestled down to iOS size, it puts you in the role of Hope as she is held captive in a building run by an unpleasant totalitarian government. Needless to say, her captivity is short-lived.

Controls tend to be the biggest obstacle when it comes to shoving an action game onto an iOS device, but République nimbly clears that hurdle with a simple one-touch interface. Navigating Hope through each level begins and ends with a single touch wherever you want to place her. Of course, this being a stealth game, you're equipped with a tool that allows you to view your surroundings and their patrolling enemies by hacking into security cameras — once again with one-touch control.

The beautiful animation and convincing voice acting leaves little doubt that developer Camouflaj is hoping to force a huge evolution in touchscreen gaming, and the first instalment of République is a convincing case that they're onto something. (iOS/$4.99)

Twitter

@metropicks asked: The Bacon Man, running for mayor in Windsor, Ont., is promising free funerals for all. What's your outlandish pledge?

@glenharnish: A free fishing rod every season and a lifetime fishing licence. #wheredoIvote?

@NinjaBot42: Subways! Subways! Subways! What? Aw crap.

@Rob_Irvine_Jr: I would promise that the Maple Leafs win a Stanley Cup...

@JohnKleinRegina: free-ish funerals seems like a good idea. Making dead people pay never really seems just. #notoutlandish

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Synopsis

Out with the old and in with the new: 2013 contained many magnificent movie moments (and some bad ones as well, but let's not dwell on those) for the Reel Guys and it looks like 2014 will be just as bountiful. This week we gaze into our cinematic crystal balls and choose the films we're looking forward to in the new year.

On tap for 2014: Another RoboCop reboot. CONTRIBUTED

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

New year, new films

Lookahead. From The Equalizer to 50 Shades of Grey, the Reel Guys make their movie picks for 2014

Richard: Mark, years ago I loved a show called The Equalizer. It starred Edward Woodward as a private detective who helped people in need "equalize the odds." It was a cool show, and as much as movie versions of programs like The A-Team and Starsky and Hutch have disappointed, I'm looking forward to this. Denzel Washington is masterful at playing ambiguous antiheroes and reteaming him with his Training Day director Antoine Fuqua seems like a good idea to me.

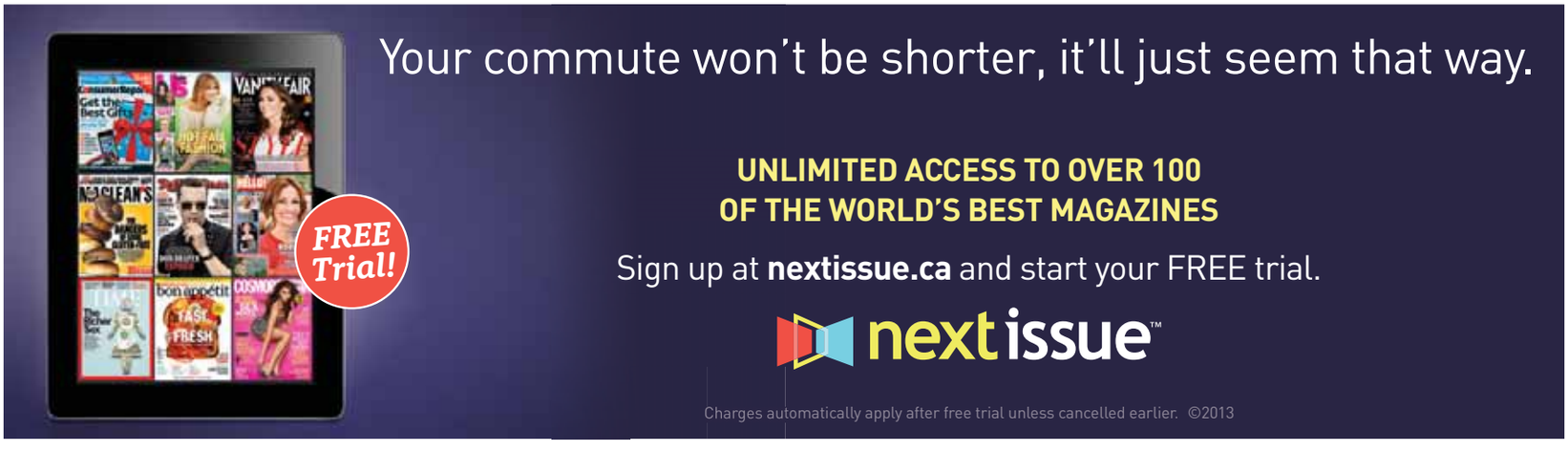
Mark: Richard, I don't know the show but I do like Denzel, I do like Fuqua and I do like the concept. One movie I am looking forward to is The Monuments Men with George Clooney, Matt Damon and John Goodman as civilians pressed into battle during the Second World War to save art treasures from the Nazis. This should hit all the bases for me.

RC: Clooney is always cool, and he also directed the movie, so I'm keen to see it. I'm also very excited for The Zero Theorem. Terry Gilliam says his new film is the third part of the trilogy he began with Brazil and continued with 12 Monkeys. If that isn't enough, it stars Christoph Waltz and Matt Damon. And did I mention it sprung from the wild mind of Terry Gilliam?

MB: Reality check: Whose last movie was the unwatchable The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus. When Gilliam stinks he stinks up the whole room. Just saying.... If it's sci-fi you're looking for, how about the RoboCop reboot, a franchise that's had more reboots than an Ugg store? Or Transcendence, which has a Philip K. Dick meets Body Snatchers sound to it. Appeals to the paranoid side of my split personality Richard...

RC: I liked Parnassus! It was like a Salvador Dali painting come to life! Gilliam Rules! But there are other things I'm looking forward to, like Maleficent. The creepy but beautiful Sleeping Beauty villain is a role Angelina Jolie's cheekbones were born to play. If the movie is as cool looking as the clips I've seen, I'll go for the art direction alone.

MB: Sure, but I think we're both ignoring what must be the Greatest Movie of 2014 — the cinematic adaptation of the great novel Fifty Shades of Grey. C'mon, Richard, admit it, you'll be second in line to see it, only because I got there the night before... and I understand James Franco is playing the handcuffs.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The big films of a big 2014

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Remakes and sequels

Transformers: Age of Extinction (June 27)
Mark Wahlberg takes over for Shia LaBeouf as the human stand-in amidst Michael Bay's gargantuan metal extravaganza, now on its fourth installment. Fingers crossed for dinobots.

X-Men: Days of Future Past (May 23)
Bryan Singer steps back into the director's chair for the franchise he started 14 years ago, bringing together a massive cast combining actors from the original films and the most recent X-Men: First Class for a time-hopping storyline cribbed from the comics. It's almost too much to take.

Captain America: The Winter Soldier (April 4)
Chris Evans' Cap gets his first solo outing since The Avengers in a story that pits him both against a mysterious terrorist with connections to his past and his own government, in the form of S.H.I.E.L.D. boss Alexander Pierce (Robert Redford).

Godzilla (May 16)
It's been more than 15 years since Roland Emmerich's go-at- the-giant monster franchise landed with a thud, so maybe it's safe to unleash the big green guy again, this time in a film starring Bryan Cranston.

Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (Jan. 17)
This Tom Clancy franchise reboot was supposed to hit theatres this Christmas, but Paramount pushed it back a month. If anything, it should keep the latest Jack Ryan, Chris Pine, busy between Star Trek outings.

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (May 2)

Sony's holding on tight to its Marvel property, pitting current Spidey Andrew Garfield against a host of threats like Electro (Jamie Foxx), the Rhino (Paul Giamatti) and the Green Goblin. Plus, they've got a series of spin-off movies to launch.

Big gambles

Noah (March 28)
Darren Aronofsky follows up Black Swan with a massive, super-expensive biblical epic starring Russell Crowe as the most famous ship-builder ever. A serious gamble for all involved, especially considering all of the sinking ship jokes critics could make if it falters.

Interstellar (Nov. 7)
All we know is that it's by Christopher Nolan and it involves wormholes and space travel and it stars, among others, Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Chastain and Michael Caine. So we're basically already there.

Maleficent (May 30)
While technically using an existing property, Disney is taking quite a risk by making one of their biggest baddies (embodied by Angelina Jolie) the main character of her own movie. Sleeping Beauty won't know what hit her.

Future cult favourites

Veronica Mars (March 14)
The little Kickstarter campaign that could is officially getting a big theatrical roll-out as opposed to the limited, VOD-heavy release they'd initially planned. The follow-up to Rob Thomas' cult-classic TV show about a high-school private eye (Kristen Bell) has a wave of goodwill behind it, with a growing audience base willing it to succeed.

Knight of Cups (TBA)
Without even a solid release date nailed down, all we know about Terrence Malick's latest is that it stars Oscar-winners Christian Bale and Natalie Portman and it's about "a man, temptations, celebrity and excess." Sounds interesting.

The Grand Budapest Hotel (March 7)
Wes Anderson follows up the delightful Moonrise Kingdom with what appears to be the most Wes Anderson film of all time with a jam-packed cast including Ralph Fiennes, Tilda Swinton, Bill Murray, Edward Norton and Jude Law.

The Lego Movie (Feb. 7)
Possibly the most welcome film adaptation of a children's toy in movie history — call it the anti-Transformers — this animated adventure looks to be pop-culture-skewering fun, with Chris Pratt, Morgan Freeman and Liam Neeson leading an all-star voice cast.

Based on a bestseller

Divergent (March 21)
The presumptive next big sci-fi film franchise based on a young-adult book series kicks off with Shailene Woodley starring as a special girl challenging a dystopian society.

Gone Girl (Oct. 3)
David Fincher takes on Gillian Flynn's bestseller about a woman who disappears on her anniversary, with Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike heading up an eclectic cast that also includes Neil Patrick Harris and Tyler Perry.

Unbroken (Dec. 25)
Christmas next year will bring Angelina Jolie's second film as a director, again with harrowing themes. This time it's the true-life tale of an Olympic runner and Japanese Second World War prisoner of war, from a book by the author of Seabiscuit.

Edge of Tomorrow (June 6)
Hiroshi Sakurazaka's futuristic novel All You Need is Kill gets the big-screen treatment with Tom Cruise starring as a soldier caught in an alien war version of Groundhog Day.

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

The sky's the limit for LaBeouf's mea culpa

Shia LaBeouf may have finally managed to write an apology for plagiarism that is not, itself, plagiarized.

The Beef came under fire recently when it came to light that his short film Howard-Cantour.com bore similarities to Daniel Clowes's comic Justin M. Damiano. The actor has since apologized several times, but since his apologies themselves seemed cobbled together from other works, it was hard to believe he was taking his transgression seriously.

Well, now at least he's working on it. Early this Thursday morning, Shia tweeted a pic of the words "I am sorry Daniel Clowes" in skywriting.

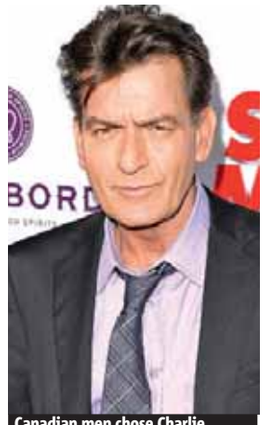
He didn't just photoshop that skywriting either. According to Variety, LaBeouf's contrition was visible across the L.A. sky on Wednesday.

"Mr. Clowes, I can only ask that you view my apology as a stepping stone toward repairing this misunderstanding between us. I'm sorry," he tweeted on New Year's Eve. All this may or may not come as any comfort to Mr. Clowes, who lives in San Francisco, not L.A. **MELINDA TAUB/METRO**

Top celeb travel moments of 2013

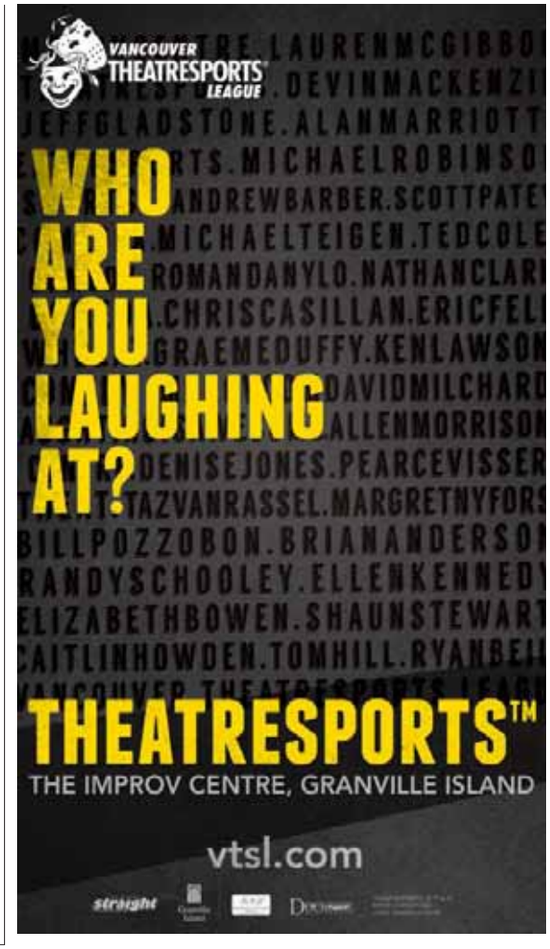
The results are in from a national survey from travelocity.ca. Here are a couple of highlights from their top celebrity travel moments of the past year.

PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



Canadian men chose Charlie Sheen's Loch Ness monster hunting trip to Scotland as the as their most memorable celeb travel moment.

Canadian men chose Leonardo DiCaprio's yacht trip to Ibiza, Spain, as the moment they would most want to recreate.



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Trends to wine about

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If Facebook is any indication, many of you are reminiscing about the last 12 months. Not me. I'm all about the future and booze trends that will define 2014.

Gazing into my crystal wine goblet, I see Old World wines solidifying their comeback. I'm talking the juice squeezed out of France, Italy and Spain easing you out of your South American rut.

That's not to say the New World won't see brighter days. Australia will show signs of rejuvenation with smaller wineries from specific regions making their personalities known.

Whites will gain ground from reds, while red blends will continue to attract the palates of the population.

Wines from a box will be invited to the dinner table, and second-tier grapes like aglianico, albariño and garnacha will be on the tip of your tongue.

The most ground-breaking trend will be flavoured wines, especially those made with, wait for it, chocolate. Chocolate Shop Red ($15.95 - $15.99) and ChocolatRouge Sweet Red ($13.99 - $17.99) have already brought their confectionary flavour flow to store shelves. I guarantee that more will follow in 2014. **PRICES REFLECT RANGE ACROSS COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

Meet the star of the 2014 foodie scene

Predictions. Experts have checked the old crystal ball and report that the veggie of the year will be — wait for it — cauliflower

ROSE REISMAN
For more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

Cauliflower is the new kale, salt is the new pepper and doughnuts and burgers are going gangbusters — at least, that's what food-trend watchers are predicting for 2014.

"I would say that cauliflower is the new kale and will definitely surpass kale this year," says Christine Couvelier, executive chef and global culinary trendologist. Cauliflower can be mashed, grilled, broiled or cut in steaks and barbecued, served on its own or in salad or tossed with herbs and oils.

Here, it's teamed with edamame to add more nutrients and flavour to regular mashed potatoes. Roasting the vegetables brings out a more intense flavour than boiling, as does the addition of sweet caramelized onions.

Ingredients

- 1 head roasted garlic
- 1 1/2 lb Yukon Gold potatoes cut into wedges, unpeeled
- 1 lb raw cauliflower, broken into pieces
- 2 cups diced onions
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp sesame oil
- 1/4 cup 2% milk
- 3/4 cup frozen shelled edamame, blanched
- pinch of salt and pepper

This Roasted Potato Cauliflower and Edamame Mash serves 8. MIKE MCCOLL, FROM THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

1. Preheat oven to 400 F. Line a baking sheet with foil sprayed with vegetable oil. Cut the top off the garlic head and wrap with foil and place on the baking sheet along with the potato and cauliflower. Spray the vegetables with vegetable oil. Roast for 30 minutes or just until tender, turning occasionally. Squeeze out the cloves of garlic.

2. Meanwhile, add onions to a skillet along with the vegetable oil and sauté on medium heat for 10 minutes just until tender. Add the brown sugar and sauté for another 5 minutes.

3. Mash potato wedges with skin in a large bowl. Place the cauliflower in a food processor along with the olive oil, sesame oil and milk and purée. Add to the mashed potatoes along with the onions, garlic cloves and edamame. Add the salt and pepper. **THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN/ FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Last chance: Canyon Lights

Until Jan. 4, catch the holiday light display at Capilano Suspension Bridge, featuring the world's tallest living Christmas tree. Expect festive entertainment, gingerbread cookie decorating, carols with a holiday band, glass-blowing with Malcolm Macfadyen, and hundreds of thousands of lights twinkling throughout the Pacific Northwest rainforest canopy, cliff walk and bridge.
(3735 Capilano Rd.)

On now: Luminescence at The Vancouver Aquarium

Don't miss the latest spectacular display at The Vancouver Aquarium (on until Jan. 22) featuring an electrifying aquatic installation. Check out the 100-plus origami jellyfish and 4-D film A Mammoth Christmas, then tour the wintery wonderland featuring Canada's Arctic Gallery. Find more information about this special presentation at vanaqua.org.
(845 Avison Way)

Now open: Green Leaf Brewing Co.

Be sure to head over to North Vancouver to tour and taste your way through one of the Lower Mainland's latest breweries to set up shop. Green Leaf Brewing opened its doors just before Christmas to rave reviews and is tucked in amongst the shops and vendors at Lonsdale Quay. Pop by their tasting bar and sip their latest seasonal release. For more information visit greenleafbrew.com. (123 Carrie Cates Ct., North Vancouver)

Last chance: Odysseo

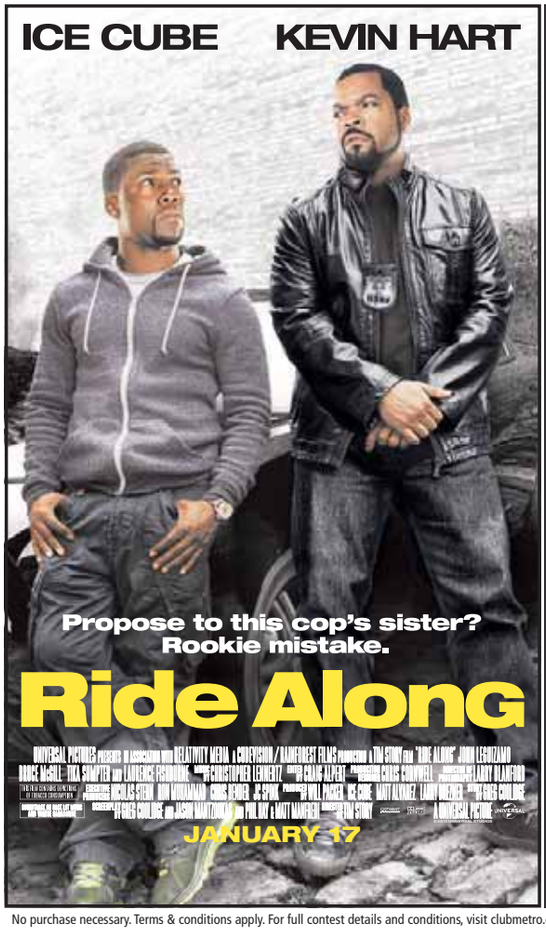
Don't miss this spectacular equestrian performance that features 67 horses expertly guided through a magical show. With 48 human performers partaking, this stunning show features equestrian arts, high-tech theatrical effects, a carousel and breath-taking acrobatics. It's a definite do-not-miss. For more information and to purchase tickets visit cavalia.net/en/odysseo. (Until Jan. 26, 1800 Spyglass Pl.)

Vancouver Spring Show 2014

The Queen Elizabeth Theatre is set to house a multicultural celebration worth noting. The Vancouver Spring Show brings together artists from around the globe, featuring The Voice of China singers, acclaimed dancer and choreographer Joel Hanna featuring the modern Irish dance troupe The D'Amby Project, and more. For tickets and additional info visit springshow.ca. (Jan. 4, 600 Hamilton St.)

Now open: Hard Rock Casino Vancouver

Check out Canada's one and only Hard Rock Casino, which recently opened in Coquitlam. Their huge property features seven different restaurants and bars, three different stages and performance lounges with seating for 1,100 as well as an 80,000-square foot casino floor. Learn more at hardrockcasino-vancouver.com.
(2080 United Blvd.)



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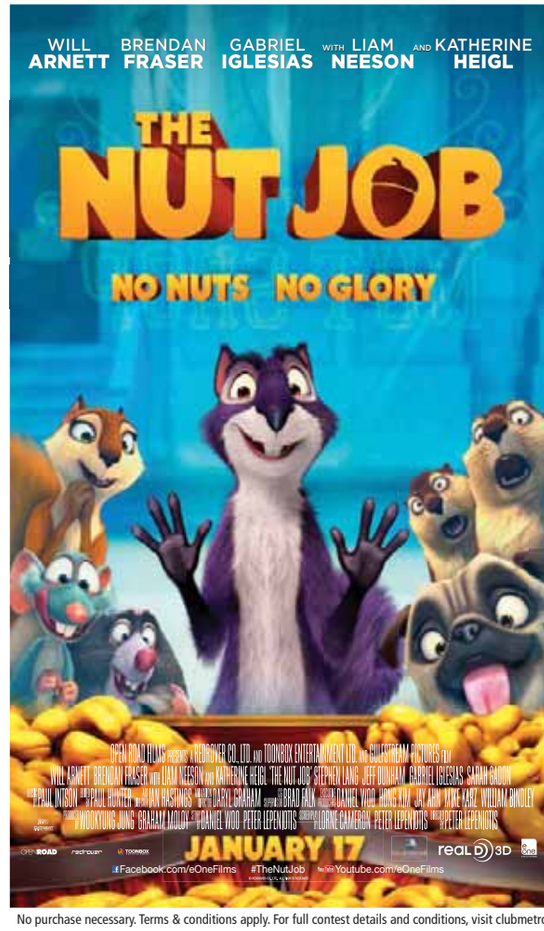

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Defenceman Dan Hamhuis says the Canucks are doing a lot of good things on the power play, they just need to put the puck in the net. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canucks struggling to ignite power play

NHL. Vancouver has scored just once with the man advantage in last seven games

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

It was their most imposing deterrent, more so than any heavyweight pugilist or enforcer.

But the once potent knockout punch that was the Vancouver Canucks' power play no longer carries the same impact it once did to opposing teams wanting to take liberties on star players or parade uncontrollably to the penalty box.

On Wednesday, in a 4-2 loss to the Tampa Bay Lightning on home ice, the Canucks went 0-for-2 with the man advantage, extending the club's power-play slump to one goal in seven games, or its last 19 opportunities.

The Canucks' power play isn't just mired in a recent slump. It has been a persistent struggle throughout most of the season for this team to score with the advantage, and not the first time this aspect has fallen under scrutiny.

As of Thursday afternoon the team sat 25th in the league, with a power play operating at 14.5 per cent efficiency.

It's been on a steady decline ever since topping the league in 2010-11 at 24.3 per cent.

The Canucks are 24th in the league when it comes to overall power-play opportunities, with 131. Yet, they are tied for second with Pittsburgh in total power-play shots, with 231, despite 10 fewer chances than the Penguins.

"The puck just needs to go in the net," Canucks defenceman Dan Hamhuis said Wednesday. "It sounds like a simple answer, but it's true. We're ... doing a lot of good things, we just need to find a way to put that puck in."

MLS

Whitecaps deny Sanvezzo report

The Vancouver Whitecaps denied a report from ESPN Deportes saying that striker Camilo Sanvezzo, the MLS Golden Boot winner, has been sold to Queretaro FC in Mexico.

Another report via Twitter out of Mexico on Thursday morning stated that Sanvezzo would be reporting to Queretaro FC on Sunday.

A spokesman for the Whitecaps said, "There is no truth to that rumour ..." CAM TUCKER/METRO

Lacrosse

Stealth kick off season Saturday

The Vancouver Stealth of the National Lacrosse League begins its regular season with a visit to the Colorado Mammoth on Saturday. The Stealth's home opener is Saturday, Jan. 11, against the Minnesota Swarm. METRO

NHL

Goalie Eriksson sent back to AHL

The Vancouver Canucks assigned goalie Joacim Eriksson to the Utica Comets on Thursday.

Dispatching Eriksson to the farm is a good indication Roberto Luongo is ready to return. CAM TUCKER/METRO

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
No matter how outrageous your ideas may seem to some, you must trust your instincts and follow up on them. Allow your inner voice to guide you and don't be surprised when it all works out perfectly.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
The planets will present a solution to a problem you thought was here to stay. You should know that everything worth knowing is revealed over time, so be patient.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
It seems you have been talking at cross purposes with a loved one and that is why you have not been getting along. It is time to sit down and be honest with one another. Yes, of course you can be friends again.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Your mind is extraordinarily active at the moment and that's good, but make sure you write down any insights you have, otherwise you may forget them by the end of the day.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Do something creative today. The current cosmic climate makes it easy for you to give form to your ideas. It also makes it easy for you to impress important people.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Something that made no sense before will make perfect sense today. Most likely the thing itself has not changed but the way you look at it has. Next time, try listening to what friends try to tell you.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Even if you are one of those rare Librans who prefers to keep thoughts private, you will have plenty to say today. The only danger is you may reveal too much valuable information.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
News you have been waiting for will arrive today and put an end to a worrying phase. Whether the news is good or bad is unimportant. What matters is that at last you know where you stand.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Whatever you decide over the next two or three days will have a major effect on your future, so think ahead and make sure you are embarking on a course that is right for you. Don't listen to others, listen to yourself.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Try not to live in the past or lament your mistakes, because what happens next will make up for what you appear to have lost. Resolve to always look forward and never look back.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You appear to believe that the whole wide world is against you. Stop the foolish imaginings and look on the bright side for a change. Life is what you choose to make of it.

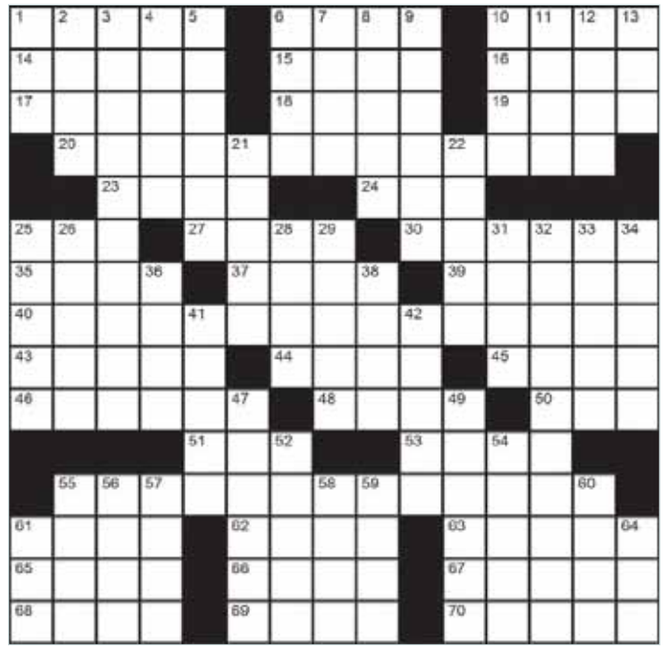
♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Whatever your special talent is, put it to good use. If a chance arises in your work or career, grab it with both hands and don't worry that you may not be up to the task. You'll ace it.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across

1. Tug-__-__
6. Stars in movies
10. Serving need
14. Patriot Games (1992) producer, Robert __
15. Target hitter in a bar game
16. Lively
17. Canadian singer/songwriter Sarah
18. Wing-shaped
19. Wreck
20. Calgary Flames great in the Hockey Hall of Fame: 2 wds.
23. Chinook salmon
24. Tokyo, formerly
25. Little bark
27. 19th Greek alphabet letters
30. Manicurist's lacquer
35. Nike slogan, "Just __ __."
37. Parking place
39. School: French
40. Current award-winning novel by Canadian author Colin McAdam: 3 wds.
43. Cantaloupe, for one
44. Mork's greeting, partially
45. __ __ about
46. Introduces more to the mix: 2 wds.
48. Tapes shows (abbr.)
50. Belonging to Nashville's Ii'l state
51. Flooring choice
53. Flew the __ (Went away)
55. Lotto Max purchaser's dream: 2 wds.
61. Earring spot
62. Stead
63. "I'll take _ __ check."
65. Car rental company
66. Immature newts
67. Elaine __, Marilu Henner's Taxi character
68. Outperform
69. Escritoire
70. Stranded, as a castaway

Down

1. Hosp. sites
2. Tumbled
3. The Guess Who album: __ Soul
4. Love Is _ __-Splendored Thing (1955)
5. Milk curdling substance
6. Eve's beloved
7. Advanced math course, for short
8. 'T' of NAFTA
9. Walked confidently
10. Ms. Banks
11. Actor Mr. Julia
12. Desert's climate
13. Yearning
21. Bread-making ingredient
22. Musical group of nine
25. Commander __ (Lorne Greene's Battlestar Galactica role)
26. Cloaked
28. __ __ Smoke (1978) starring Cheech And Chong
29. To date: 2 wds.
31. Prefix to "bat" (Circus performer)
32. City which is Newfoundland's second largest after St. John's: 2 wds.
33. Musicdom's Sir John
34. Glassmaking ovens
36. New Mexico's artsy town
38. Song
41. Barbara Stanwyck movie, __ Pacific (1939)
42. Soap opera legend Susan
47. Used a hammer
49. "__ __ _!" (You're not the only one who is capable!)
52. Songbook standard: Mack the __
54. Gumbo ingredients
55. Created tapestries
56. Nile wader
57. Bird's bed
58. Becomes
59. 1979 Fleetwood Mac album
60. The __ Is High by Blondie
61. Research __
64. Agreement sign

Yesterday's Crossword

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

					2		7	4
2	1							
					4	6		3
4	6			8	3		5	
	8						9	
	9		2	7			6	8
9		7	3					
							1	5
8	2		5					

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	2	5	8	1	7	3	4	9
4	3	1	5	2	9	6	7	8
9	7	8	4	3	6	2	1	5
3	1	6	7	9	8	4	5	2
7	4	2	3	5	1	8	9	6
8	5	9	2	6	4	7	3	1
5	9	3	6	4	2	1	8	7
1	6	7	9	8	3	5	2	4
2	8	4	1	7	5	9	6	3

Today
7°/-1°
Partly cloudy

Saturday
3°/0°
Mainly sunny

Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
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